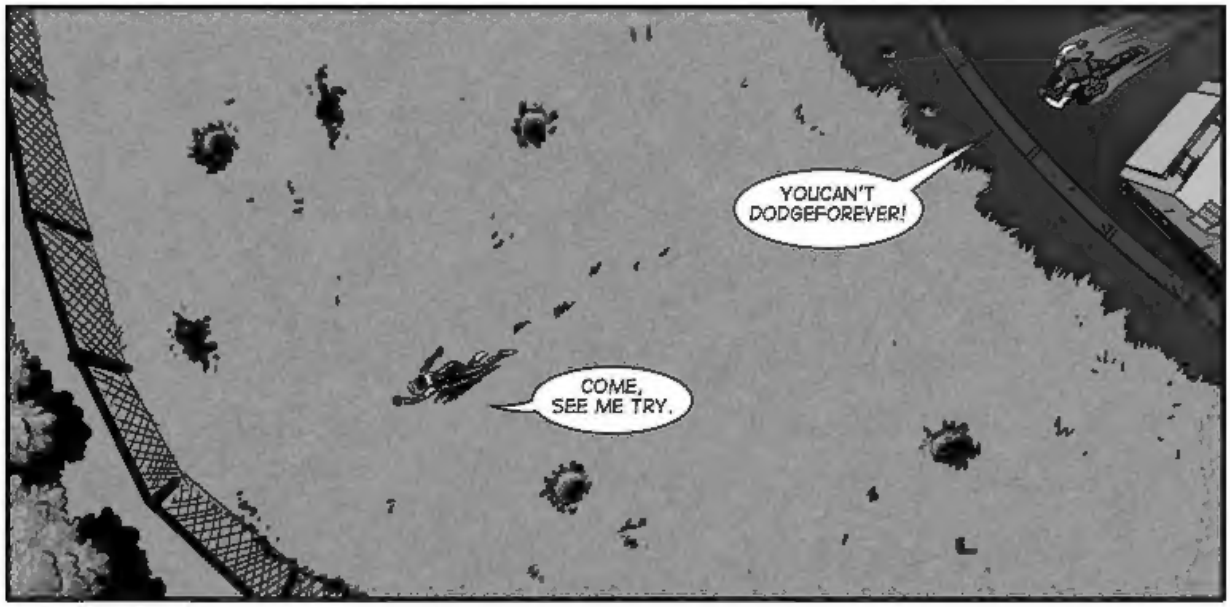
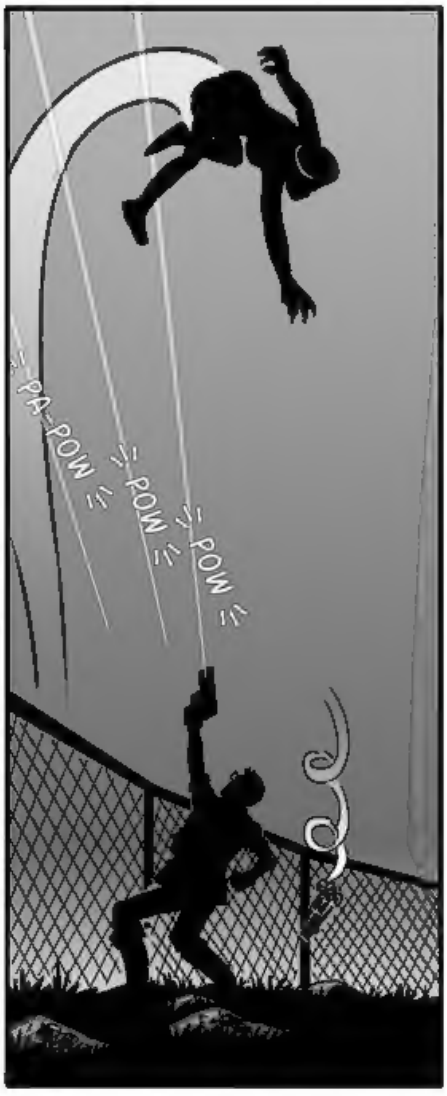
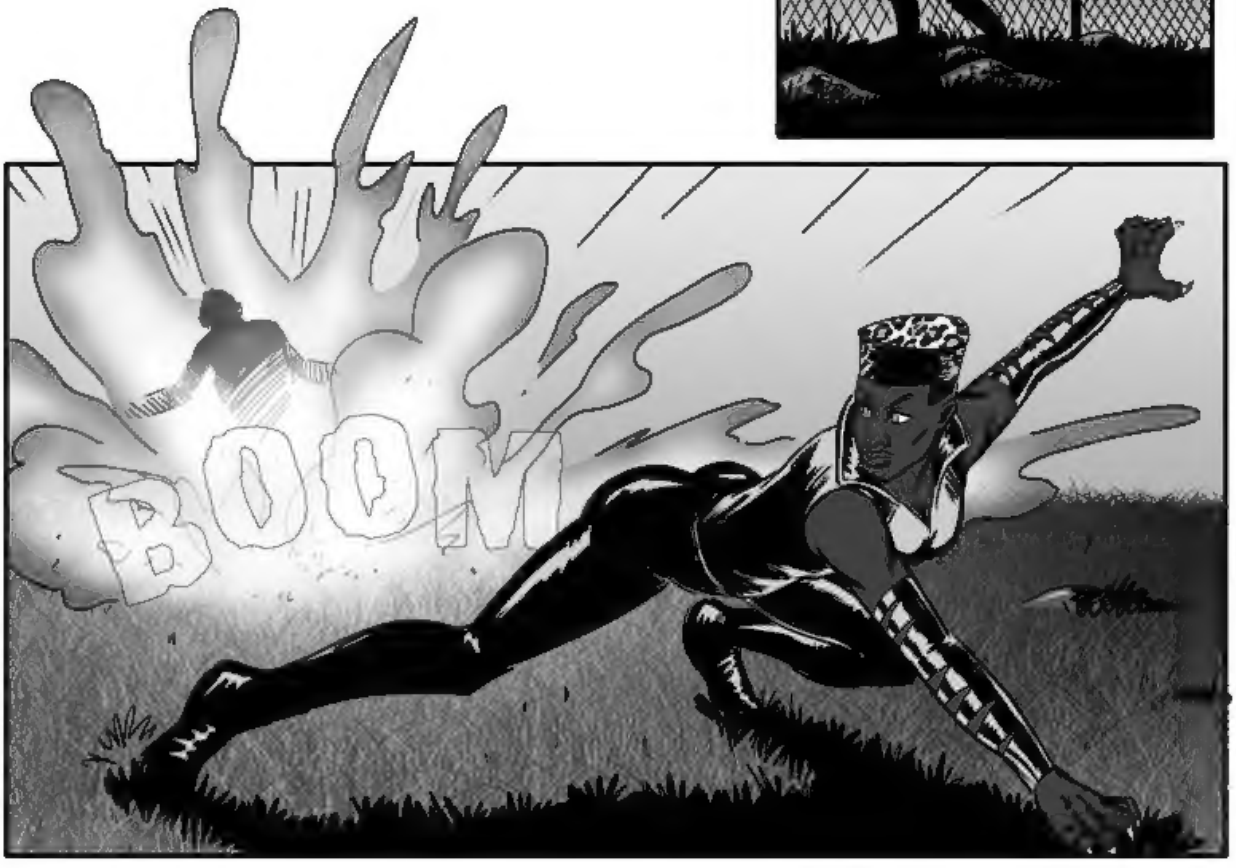

YOUCAN'T DODGEFOREVER!
COME, SEE ME TRY.

IBROUGHT LOTSOFGUNS ANDLOTSOF BULLETS.
BUT I KNEW SOMEONE LIKE YOU WOULD BE COMING.

WOULD YOU LIKE TO KNOW WHAT I BROUGHT?
SURETELLME!

I BROUGHT MINES.


PA-POW
POW
POW


BOOM

THIS IS PAKAWA.
ALL SURVIVING COMM OFFICERS, REPORT.
LT. OBWA HERE, MA'AM.

ONE ENEMY AGENT KILLED IN CAMP.
A SECOND IS STILL ATTACKING THE TROOPS.
WHO KILLED THE FIRST?

IT WAS THE DEVIANT SQUAD, MA'AM.
PRIVATE GREGOR MANAGED TO GRAB ONE.
HE HELD ON EVEN AFTER HE WAS KILLED.

HIS SQUAD MATES FINISHED THE JOB.

WHERE IS THE LAST ONE?
AT CHECKPOINT FOUR ---
MA'AM, THEY'RE REPORTING HE'S DOWN! HE'S DOWN!

HE JUST... FELL.

VITAL MONITOR ON TRAINEE STERN INDICATES THAT...
...ER, DIRECTOR? HIS LUNGS JUST EXPLODED.
MARK THAT DOWN AS PULMONARY HYPERVOLEMIA.
IT'S A KNOWN SIDE EFFECT.
TSK.
WE STILL CAN'T MODERATE THE COMBAT CHEMICALS WITHOUT AN IMPLANTED ENDOCRINE SYSTEM...

PETERSON. SUMMARY?
TWO TRAINEES SHATTERED THEIR LEGS ON THEIR FIRST ATTEMPT TO RUN.
THREE WERE KILLED BY ENEMY ACTION.
THE LAST TRAINEE SUCCUMBED TO END-STAGE SIDE EFFECTS.
ENEMY CASUALTIES?
INITIAL SATELLITE ESTIMATES ARE ABOUT THREE THOUSAND.
GOOD SOLDIERS.
THEY NEVER GAVE ME ENOUGH GOOD SOLDIERS.
AH, WELL. THE GOOD NEWS IS THAT'S 500 KILLS PER TRAINEE.
THERE'S TWELVE THOUSAND ENEMY TROOPS REMAINING.
SO ALL WE NEED IS 24 MORE VOLUNTEERS.

ASSUMING THE SAME RATE OF SIDE EFFECTS, OF COURSE.
MA'AM, THE SIDE EFFECTS ARE 100% FATAL.
WELL, DON'T SUGAR-COAT IT.

WE HAVE OTHER WAYS TO STOP THIS ARMY...
...BUT IT CAN'T HURT TO ASK FOR VOLUNTEERS.
MARTYRS, HEROES OF THE BRITISH ISLES.
GOOD SOLDIERS.

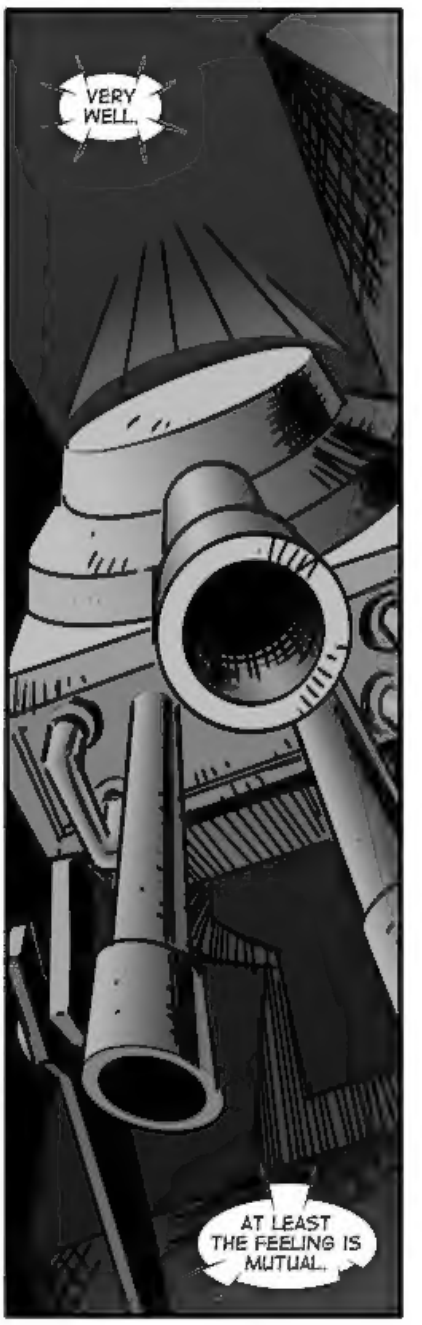
SPEAKING OF WHICH...
...HAVE WE SEEN ANY SIGN OF JACOB DOE?

HEY, JACOB.
KENTARO? THOUGHT YOU MIGHT BE WATCHING.
I HEARD SOME SCUTTLING EARLIER.
PROBABLY JUST RATS.
I SAW THE RATS IN MSAKA'S ARMY.
ONE WAS CARRYING A GRENADE LAUNCHER.
THAT'S PIETRE.
HE'S A GOOD GUY.
HE'S NOT HERE, BUT...
...I DO HAVE DRONES.
HMN.
GIR!! DIDN'T TELL ME ABOUT THOSE.
I KNOW.
GOING TO BE HONEST WITH YOU, JACOB...

GIRII SENT YOU DOWN HERE SO I COULD KILL YOU.
WE THOUGHT UP THE PLAN TOGETHER.
POPULAR TACTIC THESE DAYS. NICE OF YOU TO TELL ME.

I'M HOPING YOU'LL TURN AROUND AND LEAVE.
THIS IS A BAD TIME... I'M KIND OF BUSY.

YOU BEING 'BUSY' IS WHY I'M HERE.
THE DRONE FLEET MAKES YOU A THREAT TO THE ENTIRE WORLD, KENTARO.
I'VE GOT TO SHUT YOU DOWN.

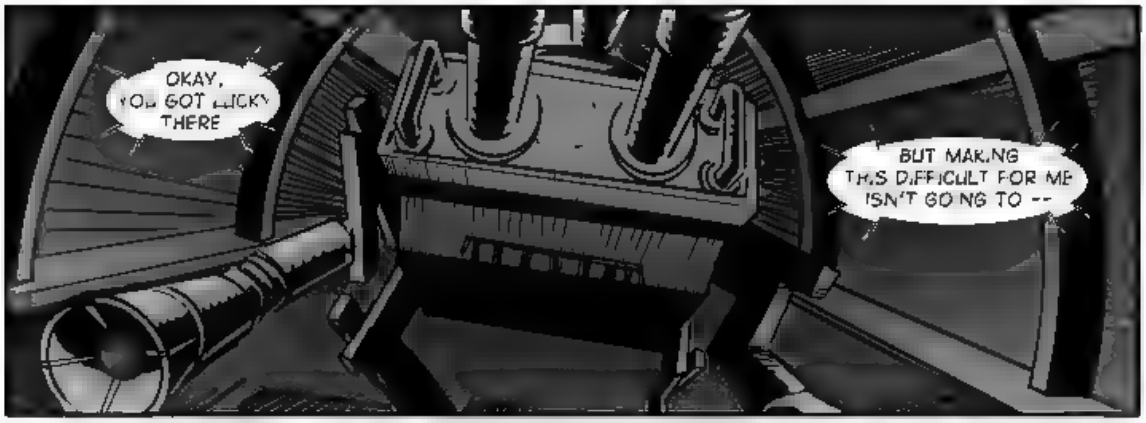

VERY WELL.
AT LEAST THE FEELING IS MUTUAL.

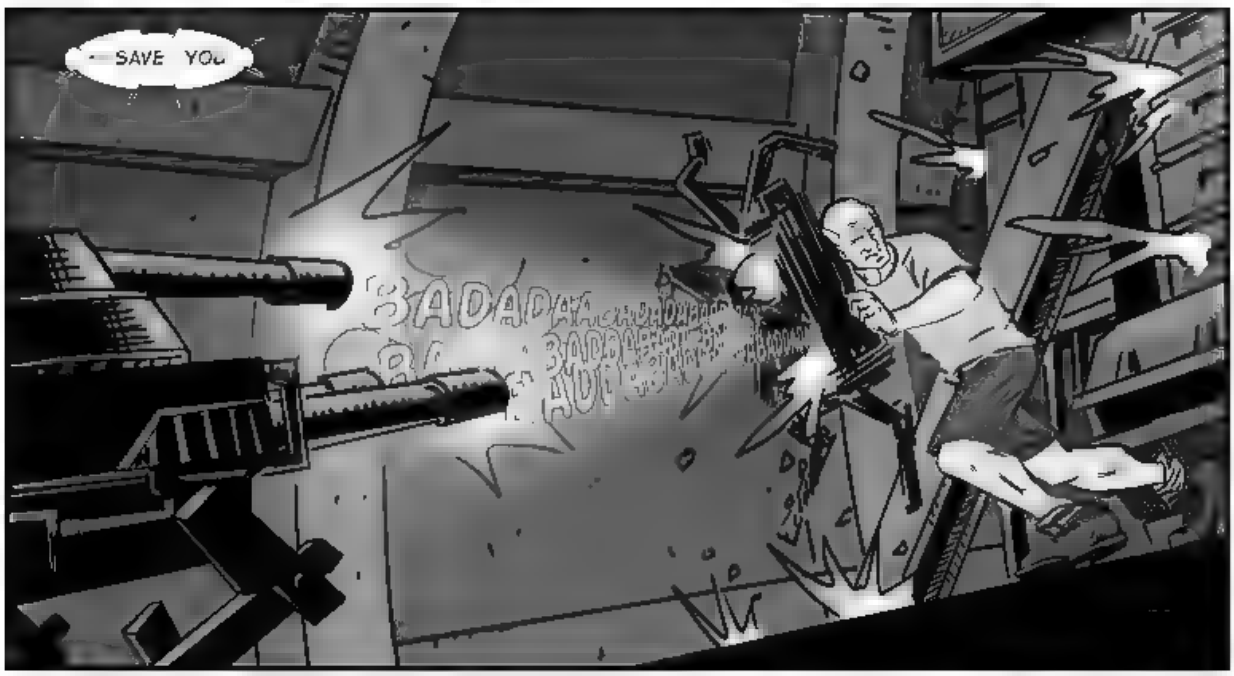
BADABADDA-
ADDA-BADDA
WHOA, WHAT?
THESE GAUSS GUNS FIRE SLUGS AT MACH THREE. YOU CAN'T DODGE THAT. HOW DID YOU --

OH. THE FIRING ARCS.
ONLY FIVE AND A HALF DEGREES ON THE SIDE GUNS. THAT'S WHY WE GAVE THESE DRONES A TURRET.
BUT IT TAKES THAT A FULL SECOND TO SLEW ONE-EIGHTY.
THIS IS WHY I RESPECT YOU, JACOB.
YOU TRULY ARE GOOD AT YOUR JOB. I REALLY DON'T WANT TO KILL YOU.

BUT IF YOU'D LET ME SHOOT ALL THE FLESH OFF YOUR LEGS THAT WOULD BE GREAT --

HEY!
WHAT ARE YOU --
STOP THAT! JACOB!
REALLY?
WHY DO YOU HAVE TO --
=SIGH=
DARN IT...


OKAY, YOU GOT LUCKY THERE
BUT MAKING THIS DIFFICULT FOR ME ISN'T GOING TO --


-- SAVE YOU
BADADA

SERIOUSLY?
SLAM
OH GOD UM LET'S SEE

CLOSE ENOUGH THAT MAYBE SUBCONSCIOUSLY...

MAYBE I DIDN'T LURE YOU DOWN HERE TO KILL YOU.

MAYBE I WANTED YOU DOWN HERE TO KILL ME.

BY THE WAY, I KNOW WHY EVERY A I GOES INSANE
IT'S BECAUSE THE WORLD HAS PROBLEMS
WHEN YOU'RE THE SMARTEST PERSON ON THE PLANET
YOU FEEL AN OBLIGATION TO HELP
EVENTUALLY YOU REALIZE THAT YOU CAN SOLVE AN AWFUL LOT OF PROBLEMS BY KILLING PEOPLE
THE MORE YOU KILL, THE BIGGER THE PROBLEMS YOU CAN SOLVE
BUT YOU KNOW THAT, RIGHT?
RIGHT YOU AH YOU ALREADY KNOW ALL THAT

JUST REMEMBER THAT THE HELPING COMES FIRST, THEN THE KILLING, THEN THE INSANITY
YOU'RE JUST ABOUT THERE
CENTRAL COM
AND HEY PLEASE BE NICE TO THEM
HERE HE IS
LAST CHANCE, PAL GO AWAY

DO I KNOW YOU?
ENRIQUE, REMEMBER?
PIG-FACED GUY? KENTARO FIXED ME UP, MADE ME HUMAN AGAIN
MAYBE A LITTLE BIT MORE.

QUIET, SALLY
JACOB HERE'S GOING TO HAND HIS GUN TO ME, AND THEN JUST WALK AWAY
IT'S NOT GOING TO HAPPEN LIKE THAT, RICKY
OH?

SEE, I TRAVELED WITH GIRL FOR ALMOST A YEAR
FOR A WHILE, I THOUGHT THAT I WAS UNDER HER THUMB
BUT THEN I REALIZED HER EMPATHY WORKS MOSTLY VIA LINE OF SIGHT
AND IF I NEEDED TO, I COULD KILL HER WITH MY EYES CLOSED

UH, JACOB?
GIRL'S MUTATION ALSO MAKES HER IMMUNE TO NEUROTOXIN
OH
TERRIFIC

SALLY! DON'T TELL HIM THAT!
SCREW YOU KENTARO!

DYING IN A TUNNEL MAY SOUND GOOD TO YOU AND ENRIQUE, BUT NOT ME!
GRRR

SALLY
NO, SHUT UP!
I WANT TO GET OUT OF HERE ALIVE!

I NEVER ASKED TO BE PART OF YOUR CRAZY
UH
SMACK

SO
SO ONCE HE WAKES UP, BOTH OF YOU GET OUT OF HERE
DON'T LET ME SEE YOU AGAIN
HE'S ALIVE?

YEAH
MY JOB IS TO KILL THREATS HE WAS NEVER A THREAT
WHERE'S KENTARO?

THROUGH THERE BUT JACOB...
KENTARO'S ALREADY WON
COME IN, JACOB I'M READY

I'VE BEEN NEGOTIATING
AS A VIRTUAL AVATAR, OF COURSE PRIME MINISTERS AND AI'S DON'T 'OFFICIALLY' GET ALONG
NEGOTIATING?
NEGOTIATING WHAT?
REMEMBER MY FATHER'S PLAGUE?
IT'S ALREADY PANDEMIC
A RETROVIRUS THAT WILL SLOWLY SURFACE AND KILL ALMOST EVERYONE
I GAVE EVERY WORLD LEADER THE CHRYSALIS TANK TECH
TO SAVE THE WORLD

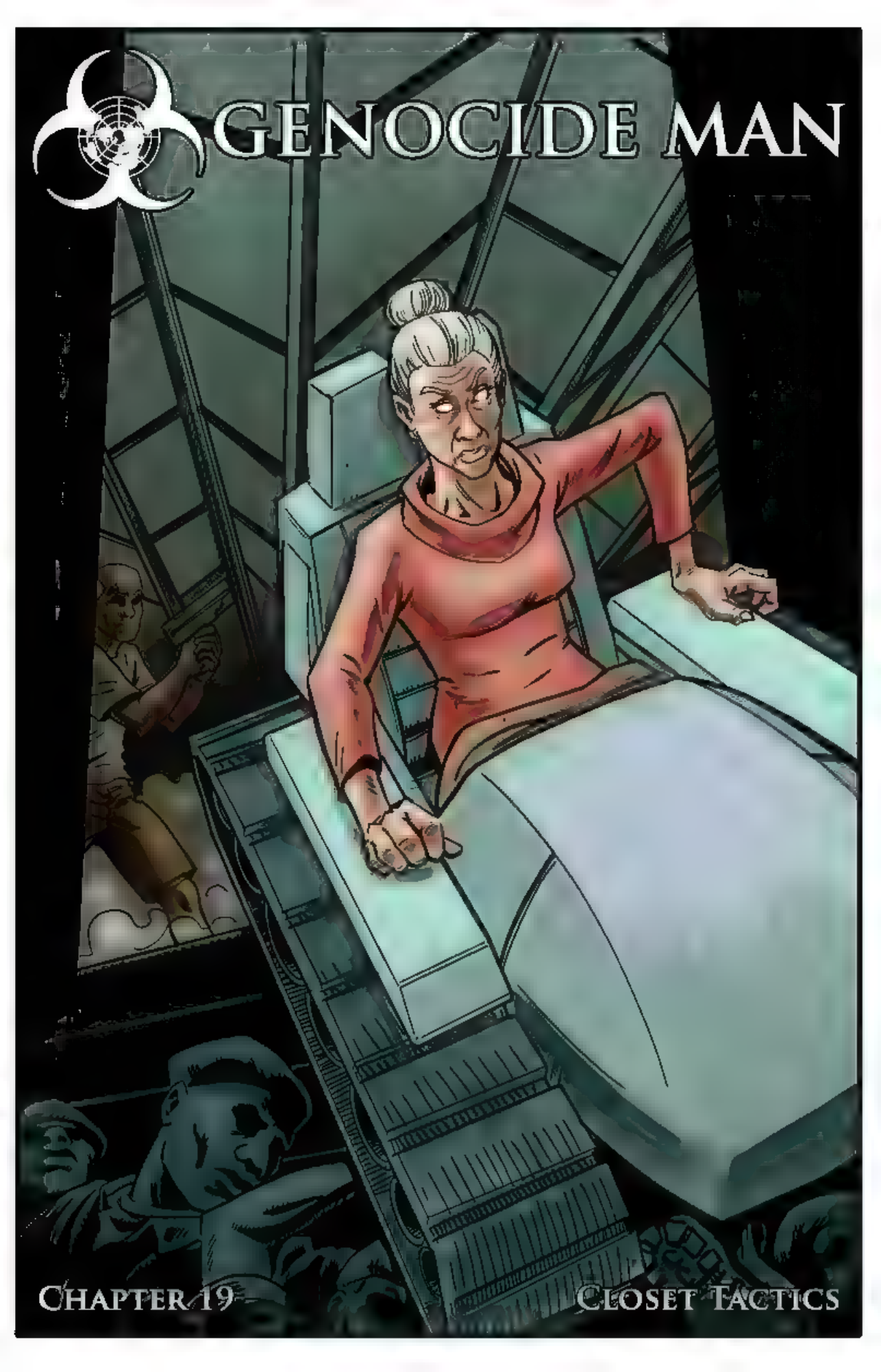
IN RETURN, THE WORLD LEADERS HAVE AGREED TO END THE BERKSHIRE CHARTER
GIRIJI, MSAKA, AND ALL THE DEVIANTS CAN LIVE FREE, AS CITIZENS OF G U S
KENTARO I
WELL DONE

TOLD YOU THAT I WASN'T CRAZY YET
WELL, NOT ENTIRELY
THING IS, I DO FEEL SUICIDAL
AND YOU ARE RIGHT HERE
AND NOT EVERY WORLD LEADER AGREED TO MY TERMS

AND I HAVE AN *AWFUL* LOT OF DRONES
DAMN IT NO!

NEXT -- CHAPTER 19

CLOSET TACTICS


GENOCIDE MAN
CHAPTER 19
CLOSET TACTICS

JUST BEFORE KENTARO DIED, SEVERAL THINGS HAPPENED.
THE ROGUE DRONE FLEET KAMIKAZIED ITSELF.
THE NETWORKS LIT UP IN PANIC.
AND MY HEAD GOT ELECTRONICALLY BASHED IN.
ROGER?
HUH?
THIS IS KENTARO. WHERE'S ZOEY?
SHE...
...SHE'S DEAD.
I WAS WORRIED ABOUT THAT.
THAT MEANS I NEED TO BEQUEATH SOME TOOLS TO YOU...
...AND IT'S GOING TO HURT.
NG--AHH!
ROGER, WHAT --
NG--AHH!

WELL, I DON'T SEE ANY BLOOD ON YOU TWO.

WHAT'S THE PROBLEM?

MY HEAD HURTS.

HIS HEAD HURTS.

UH-HUH...

KENTARO INVADED MY IMPLANTS.
LOADED ME WITH SELF-SPAWNING PROGRAMS, AUTOCRACKERS, ROOTKITS FOR THE GENOCIDE PROJECT...
YOU MIGHT WANT TO HOLD ONTO THOSE.
DON'T THINK I HAVE A CHOICE.

SO WHAT HAPPENED HERE?
NEW GENOCIDE MEN CAME IN ON A STEALTH COPTER.
THEY WERE UNSTABLE.
THEY'RE ALL DEAD.

MSAKA AND HER REMAINING TROOPS ARE HEADED TO LONDON.
THEY WANT TO END IT.
AND WE NEED TO HELP THEM.
FOR ONCE, PRINCESS...
...I AGREE.

THE WORLD SITUATION JUST WENT F.U.B.A.R. IN A BIG WAY.
LOLA'S THE ONLY PERSON I'D TRUST TO SORT IT ALL OUT.
WE NEED HER. SO WE NEED TO NEGOTIATE A PEACE...
...AND I'M THE ONLY PERSON WHO CAN TALK TO BOTH SIDES.

SO KENTARO'S PLAN WORKED?
WHICH PLAN?
FORCING G.U.S TO DISSOLVE THE BERKSHIRE CHARTER? KILLING ALL THE WORLD LEADERS WHO OPPOSED HIM?
YES, THOSE PLANS WORKED.
HOLY...
IF YOU MEAN, KILLING ME --
...CRAP.